

MUNICH MINERALLIENTAGE-2021

“Munich Mineralientage-2021” Mineralogical Show took place in spite of the great difficulties and restrictions caused by the CV-pandemic. We missed many acquaintances, friends and well-known dealers from the USA and Europe. Numerous dealers from China and India, who usually sell abundant and inexpensive minerals and rocks for the general public, dropped out almost completely. There were losses among publishers also – our colleagues from Spain couldn’t come. Also unusually scarce were the museums of the world. Perhaps it was here, in the halls of the world’s most popular mineral show, that we fully realized the enormous toll the pandemic had taken on humanity. And the more joyful and warm were our meetings at the show, the longer we talked to our colleagues and friends. And the greater our gratitude to the organizers of the show and our admiration for their heroic efforts, which were crowned with success. The short notes published below do not pretend to be complete, they lightly show only some of the features of the general show portrait.

Notes on Munich Show-2021

Zbyněk Buřival

geologist, photographer, Brno, Czech Republic, burival@gmail.com

The Munich Show 2021 was a long anticipated and a bit strange event. I was there only for Thursday, when the show had limited traffic and the exhibitions were not ready yet. The covid atmosphere was felt everywhere, the premium dealer’s sector was rearranged and there were even empty stands in both A5/A6 halls. But I have absolutely no complaints regarding the variety and quality of the specimens offered.

The dark axinite specimens from Puiva, Subpolar Urals, Russia (Fig. 1), were spread across several dealers. The original source of the specimens was *KARP*. However, the specimens are from the find about 20 years ago. Except for these axinite specimens, *KARP* also had some nice brown titanite specimens from the same site. The titanite is associated with white adularia and sitting nicely on a matrix. Another great specimen offered by *KARP* was the large green fluorite from Dalnegorsk, Russia (Fig. 31). It is a new find from 2020, the matted apple green fluorite is almost transparent. Fluorite crystals are classic cubes with the tips very slightly cut by octahedron planes. The fluorite is accompanied by complex and shiny galena crystals with minor flat calcites. Altogether a large and highly aesthetic piece from classic locality.

Very interesting was a nice terminated elbaite (rubellite) from Malysya Vein, East Pamir, Tajikistan (Fig. 2), I failed to find any reference about this locality (short information is on this vein on webmineral.ru – *Notes by editor*). The single prismatic crystal of rubellite has a complex termination and no matrix, the tourmaline prism is partially covered by big flakes of pale pink lepidolite. Hopefully, we will see more material coming from this pegmatite.

The huge vivianite from Cabeça do Cachorro claim, São Gabriel da Cachoeira, Amazonas, Brazil (Fig. 3), was one of the most photographed and discussed specimens at Munich 2021. This beast was offered by Alain Martaud, but there were several large specimens

Photo 1–13: Zbyněk Buřival.



1. **Axinite.**
Puiva, Subpolar Urals, Russia.
Specimen: *KARP*.



2. **Elbaite** (rubellite).
Mine Malysya, East Pamir,
Tajikistan.

3. **Vivianite.**
Cabeça do Cachorro claim,
São Gabriel da Cachoeira,
Amazonas, Brazil.
Specimen: Alain Martaud.

4. **Rutile.**
Ibiajara, Bahia, Brazil.
Specimen: *Escaut Minerals*.

5. **Vanadinite.**
Mibladen, Morocco.
Specimen: *Cristalli*.

of vivianite and few ludlamites from the same find spread across many dealers. Interestingly, this specimen was the largest one, but also one of the most aesthetic at the same time. Usually, the biggest specimens lack the aesthetics or contain some unfortunate damage.

The hairy golden rutiles from Ibiajara, Bahia, Brazil (Fig. 4), were offered by various dealers. The depicted specimen was offered by *Escaut Minerals*. These new rutile finds form long golden acicular crystals sitting directly on a rock matrix, sometimes forming six pointed stars. Both recovery and transport of these specimens is a true challenge. Several such finds were reported from both the Alps and Brazil, but these specimens are exceptional.

There were new impressive vanadinite specimens from Mibladen, Morocco. These new pieces were not as dark as finds dating a few years back, but still dark compared to classic bright red vanadinite. The size of both single crystals and the whole specimens was quite large. The specimen in the photo was offered by *Cristalli* (Fig. 5). Its not among the largest but shows incredible quality, shape, and luster.

The bright yellow wulfenite from Ahmad Abad Mine, Bafq Co., Yazd Province in Iran, was offered by *Cristalli* (Fig. 6). The bright yellow-orange flat crystals are sitting on a contrasting white matrix, making the specimen true eye-candy. The size and quality of these wulfenites easily ranks them into the world class.

There was a lot of red fluorite octahedron crystals from Huanggang, China, lately. However, this one offered by *Cristalli* is among the best ones regarding shape, size, color, and with a lovely calcite matrix (Fig. 7). The fluorite sitting on the calcite “nest” makes a nice contrast with a dark red glossy fluorite octahedron.

Pollucite is a quite rare caesium mineral. The specimen from Paprok, Afghanistan, has an unbelievable size while still having a nice crystal shape (Fig. 8). The terminated and zoned tourmalines sitting on the side of the pollucite are providing a nice contrast. A bit oversized for most mineral collections but definitely a very interesting and uncommon specimen.

The dyscrasite on arsenic from shaft #21 in Pířbram, Czech Republic, belongs to a true European classic and was offered by *MCP* (Fig. 9). The displayed specimen has a nice balanced shape

